

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Claims 1-14 (canceled).

Claim 15 (currently amended): A circuit configuration,  
comprising:

a load transistor having a load path and a voltage across  
said load path;

a current sensing transistor coupled to said load transistor;

a first evaluation circuit;

a second evaluation circuit; and

a switch configuration for receiving a control signal, said  
switch configuration including at least one switch driven  
depending on the voltage across said load path of said load  
transistor and connected downstream of said current sensing  
transistor, said switch configuration connecting said current  
sensing transistor to a selected evaluation circuit ~~that is~~  
selected from the group consisting of said first evaluation  
circuit and said second evaluation circuit in dependence on  
said control signal.

Claim 16 (canceled).

Claim 17 (currently amended): The circuit configuration according to claim ~~16~~ 15, wherein:

said current sensing transistor provides an output current;  
and

said switch configuration feeds the output current of said current sensing transistor to said selected evaluation circuit.

Claim 18 (previously presented): The circuit configuration according to claim 15, wherein:

said current sensing transistor provides an output current;  
and

said switch configuration feeds the output current of said current sensing transistor to said selected evaluation circuit.

Claim 19 (previously presented): The circuit configuration according to claim 15, comprising:

a first chip having said load transistor and said current sensing transistor integrated therein; and

a second chip having said switch configuration, said first evaluation circuit, and said second evaluation circuit integrated therein.

Claim 20 (previously presented): The circuit configuration according to claim 15, wherein:

said load transistor has a load path and a voltage across said load path;

said switch configuration has a comparator configuration that receives a reference voltage; and

said comparator configuration compares the voltage across said load path of said load transistor with the reference voltage.

Claim 21 (previously presented): The circuit configuration according to claim 20, wherein:

said comparator configuration provides an output signal; and

said switch is driven in dependence on the output signal of  
said comparator configuration.

Claim 22 (currently amended): The circuit configuration  
according to claim 15, wherein:

~~said comparator configuration provides an output signal; and~~

said switch has a first transistor ~~and a second transistor~~  
~~that are~~ configured to be driven in dependence on ~~the an~~  
output signal of ~~said~~ a comparator configuration and to  
control a to be regulated resistor in a first evaluation  
circuit.

Claim 23 (previously presented): The circuit configuration  
according to claim 15, wherein:

said first evaluation circuit includes a regulatable resistor  
connected in series with said current sensing transistor; and

said first evaluation circuit includes a comparator  
configuration regulating said regulatable resistor.

Claim 24 (currently amended): The circuit configuration  
according to claim 23, wherein:

said ~~second~~ first evaluation circuit includes a further resistor connected in series with said regulatable resistor; and

a first current signal can be tapped off at said further resistor.

Claim 25 (previously presented): The circuit configuration according to claim 24, wherein said regulatable resistor is designed as a transistor.

Claim 26 (previously presented): The circuit configuration according to claim 23, wherein said regulatable resistor is designed as a transistor.

Claim 27 (previously presented): The circuit configuration according to claim 15, wherein:

said second evaluation circuit has a series circuit; and

said series circuit includes a resistor and a switch connected in series with said current sensing transistor.

Claim 28 (previously presented): The circuit configuration according to claim 27, wherein:

said switch configuration has a switch position; and

said switch of said series circuit of said second evaluation circuit is driven in dependence on the switch position of said switch configuration.

Claim 29 (currently amended): The A circuit configuration ~~according to claim 15~~, comprising:

a load transistor;

a current sensing transistor coupled to said load transistor;

a first evaluation circuit;

a second evaluation circuit;

a terminal for receiving a supply potential;

~~said~~ a comparator configuration providing an output signal;

a switch configuration for receiving a control signal, said  
switch configuration including at least one switch connected  
downstream of said current sensing transistor, said switch  
configuration connecting said current sensing transistor to a  
selected evaluation circuit selected from the group  
consisting of said first evaluation circuit and said second  
evaluation circuit in dependence on said control signal;

said switch having a first transistor and a second transistor  
being driven in dependence on the output signal of said  
comparator configuration;

said first evaluation circuit including a regulatable  
resistor connected in series with said current sensing  
transistor;

said first evaluation circuit including [[a]] said comparator  
configuration regulating said regulatable resistor;

said regulatable resistor including a control terminal; and

said first transistor including a load path connected between  
said terminal for receiving the supply potential and said  
control terminal of said regulatable resistor.

Claim 30 (previously presented): The circuit configuration according to claim 15, comprising:

a terminal for receiving a supply potential;

said comparator configuration providing an output signal;

said switch having a first transistor and a second transistor being driven in dependence on the output signal of said comparator configuration;

said second evaluation circuit including a series circuit;

said series circuit including a resistor and a switch connected in series with said current sensing transistor;

said switch of said series circuit including a control terminal;

said second transistor including a load path connected between the supply potential and said control terminal of said switch of said series circuit.

Claim 31 (new): The circuit configuration according to claim 25, wherein said switch has a first transistor configured to



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be driven in dependence on an output signal of said  
comparator configuration and to control said regulatable  
resistor.

Claim 32 (new): The circuit configuration according to claim  
27, wherein said switch has a second transistor configured to  
be driven in dependence on an output signal of a comparator  
configuration and to control said switch.